

At the junction of the Centre Road and No. Ten sideroad, Chinguacousy, there was in the 1870/1900 period a thriving village known as Westervelt's Corners. Mr. Westervelt owned the hundred acres on the northwest corner at that time, although in 1835 it was registered in the name of Warren Clarkson. It is not known whether Mr Westervelt built the hotel on the corner which in the 1880's was run by ^{Mrs.} Rutherford. It was a well run establishment. According to the minutes of a Chinguacousy council meeting in 1858 there were five inspectors of houses of public entertainment; perhaps this supervision accounted for the popularity of this hotel as an overnight stop for the stage from York to Orangeville. About 1900 Mr. John Smither bought the hotel, cut it in two, and moved one half fifty yards west of the corner. Thus, the popular ballroom became an upstairs storeroom for tools, lumber, hay and all sorts of things, the downstairs barroom became a stable and wagon shed. The other half was used as a residence until after Mr. Smither's death in the early 1930's when it was sold to Mr. Thompson Russell for a service station and restaurant. It is now known as the White Motor Grill.

The name Westervelt's Corners seems to have been used for mail delivery ^{until} about 1910; but even before this the residents of Brampton and of Chinguacousy were calling it simply No. Ten and by such name it is still known in election results. On the east side of the road from Brampton there was a board sidewalk known as "lovers' Walk." How the little Simpson, Arthurs, and Bovaird boys used to love to hide behind the board fence and spy on the young couples who made this stroll to No. Ten their favourite Sunday evening recreation. The delight of the older generation was to drive around the block to No. Ten and down the first line east. The writer recalls vividly Mr. Golding's family taking their outing in their surrey with the fringe on top.

North of the White Motor Grill there stands a brick house still owned by Mr. Maylon Simpson whose family bought it in 1880 from a brother of A. P. Westervelt. There was a Primitive Methodist Church property north of this house, but as Brampton Churches became more popular, the attendance dropped and the Church building was finally moved to the Gummerson farm north where it has long served as a driving shed. Mr. Maylon Simpson, on this farm, still has the church sign and a red velvet hassock on which rested the Bible.

When Mr. Westervelt died, his farm was put up for sale in York, and Mr. Gummerson, the buyer, moved his large family to the house on the upper fifty where his grandson, Maylon Simpson, still resides. Mr. Gummerson had eight sons and four daughters and it was his ambition to give each of the boys a farm. To this end he bought the hundred acres west of the tracks from Ben ^{McMeekin} ~~McMeekin~~, whose brother Sam McMeekin owned the next hundred north. He later bought the farm across the tracks on the south side of No. Ten. These farms in the early 1900's belonged to Mr. Jas. Wiggins, Mr. Moddison, Mr. Albert Kee. The Wiggins farm is now the plant of Armstrong Bros. Construction Co., and the Kee farm, after being in possession of Rankin Kellam for a few years, is now awaiting industrial development. The C. P. R. was originally a narrow gauge railway. Mr. Gummerson's old homestead was for a time owned by McLeans and Jas. Marshall but it is now back in the Gummerson family, Mr. Simpson being the grandson. The lower fifty of the Gummerson property was rented for many years to Mr. Clarsidge, Mr. Woods, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Tom Bird, Mr. Jas. Bovaird but the frame dwellings were demolished in the 1920's. One of the tragedies of the early days was the accidental death of young Mr. Wm. Gummerson when a tree fell on him while he and his brother were cutting timber for the house over the tracks. That house is still in use on the Armstrong property.

At No. Ten on the east side of the centre road, officially Hurontario Street, there was a school on the north corner. This building became a residence sometime before 1870 when a brick school was built on the first line east. Mr. Elijah Dodds' family occupied this house until 1886 when it was bought by Mr. Jas. Bovaird, only 3 years out from Donegal. The Dodds family moved to Snelgrove, then called Edmonton. There was on this lot also a disused house, some time previously occupied by an Indian family, but at this time used by Mr. Bovaird to shelter a thoroughbred mare and colt. One day he hitched the mare and set out for Norval, having locked the colt in the old house. To his surprise, it soon caught up with him. It had climbed the stairs and jumped out the (continued next page)

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Mrs. Dodd always treated the Indian boys to cookies when they came to play with her own boys. Her oldest son, Jack, went to work in bush country in Michigan where he was seriously injured by a falling tree. An Indian carried him on his back to a hospital in Duluth and stayed with him until he was out of danger. When Jack asked why he was so kind to a complete stranger the Indian replied, "You are no stranger; your mother fed me a good many cookies."

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Below the Indian cabins was Mr. Anderson Campbell's blacksmith shop. He had owned ten acres ~~on~~ the site of the present Toronto city Hall but had been burnt out and came to the country to seek a new home where he could carry on his trade. At Rutherford's Inn his tale so impressed the neighbours that they volunteered to build him a shop and a home. It would be handy not to have to take the horses to Brampton always to be shod. Mr. Wm Smith donated the timber, which the men felled in his bush. The shop disappeared after Mr. Campbell and his son died, but the house was retained by the grand children until about 1910 when it was rented to Mr. Cowton, then sold to Mr. Herb Imber. It is at present owned by Mrs. Tribble.

The first farm north of the town on the east side was granted to Archibald Pickard but was from 1880 to about 1905 owned by Mr. John Carter (little Johnny). He sold to Mr. Harkness who greatly improved the brick residence. For a short time Mr. Harris lived there but in 1910 it was bought by Mr. Wesley Fleury and is still owned by his descendants. The brickyard on the northern part of this farm was started in 1905 by the Packham family. The present owners who greatly enlarged the plant, bought it from Packham's about 1950.

On the west side of Hurontario street there were four fifty acre farms from the town north to No. Ten. The brick dwelling on the Newhouse estate bears the date 1878. Above this was the farm of John Lyne, which had been registered in 1877 in the name of Geo. Davis and later owned by Crofords before it became County property in the early 1900's and grew into our very fine Peel Manor. The third farm was in name of Sam Huxley but later, Troughtons owned it, also the one on the corner. This was the Mr. Troughton who was well known for the fine ploughs which he made. In 1835 the corner farm belonged to John Herron. In 1859 it was registered under the name of George Wright, and in 1877 Ed. Dale is shown as the owner. The Troughtons must have sold early in 1900 to Mr. Jas. White, whose son Stafford, and, later, grandson James inherited it. It has now been sold for industrial development, and a small boat factory, a service station, a restaurant replace the farm buildings, orchard, and maples bordering the highway.

Recent additions to No. Ten include a first class motel in connection with the White Motor Grill, and a popular restaurant, The Junction Diner, on the Reitz farm.

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For my information I am indebted to the Archives, Parliament Bldgs. Toronto. Mr. Maylon Simpson and Mr. Robert Bovaird both still resident at No. Ten; Mrs. Janie Bovaird Bovaird Dodd, now of Inglewood.

A History of No. Ten - Cherry
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